



THE GOOD NEWS

San Marcos
Lutheran Church

February 2024

Our Mission: “To know, accept and live the love of God and share it with others”



Annual Congregational Meeting

February 11th

at 11:15am

2023 Annual reports will be available starting Feb. 4th, as well as at the meeting.

*Please plan to attend the 2nd portion of our Annual Congregational Meeting. We will vote to accept the 2024 budget and elect Synod Assembly voting members.

Your voice and vote are important!



Ash Wednesday

Feb. 14th.

12 noon & 7pm services

Service of the word and
imposition of ashes

Lifeline Screenings

February 15th

8:30am-5:00pm

Luther Hall



You are dust, and to dust you shall return. — Genesis 3:19

Each year, we spend the six weeks preceding Easter in a preparatory season called Lent. We enter that season on Ash Wednesday, on which it is customary for me to smear a cross of ashes on your forehead and remind you of your mortality. This year, we observe Ash Wednesday on February 14, which also happens to be Valentine's Day.

These two days do not, on the surface, seem to have all that much in common. There are all sorts of different feelings associated with Valentine's Day—from those who delight in showering their loved ones with heart-shaped chocolates and sentimental puns, to those skeptics who presume that Hallmark invented the holiday as an excuse to sell more cards. Wherever you land, you probably don't spend most Valentine's Days thinking about death.

Some of us think about death more than others, and what we think about death varies. If your job is even tangentially in the medical field, you probably encounter death an above-average amount. If one or more of your closest loved ones has died, you are familiar with the sting of grief. In our contemporary society, we are torn between the death-denying culture of anti-aging—this eye cream will change your life!—and the death-dealing realities of pandemic and war. Perhaps your thoughts on death—your own and others—have changed since 2020.

In observance of this reflective, penitential, funereal time of Lent, our after-worship Community Time together is going to be centered around the idea of A Good Death. Each Sunday during this season (February 18-March 17) we'll gather around a different facet of death, with facilitators from our community. There's a flier in this newsletter with the specifics for each Sunday, and I'll be telling you more about them during the announcements each week, but I want to issue you a more specific invitation.

If learning about death—hospice care, grief resources, palliative care, end-of-life financial planning, and funeral planning—sounds uncomfortable, I invite you to sit with that discomfort and push through that discomfort. The logistics of death are complex, and feeling prepared to navigate them—before you are in the midst of grief—can be empowering. Knowing the options, prayerfully considering them, and even making some preliminary choices can alleviate some of the stress you are likely to experience at the end of the life of someone you love. You can also alleviate that stress from your kids (or other next of kin) by preparing for your own death.

Morbid, I know! But that is the gift of this season. It is as good a time as any to face these facts, and do so in community. God created each of us to live together in love—which always results in being separated by death, but reunited in resurrection joy. Once Lent begins, we'll have to refrain from the associated hallelujahs, but we will still be celebrating the God who loves us. Perhaps we can thank God for this love with a valentine?

Peace,

Pastor Casey

San Marcos Lutheran Church

3419 Grand Avenue San Marcos, CA 92078

(760) 727-1509

smlc3419@sbcglobal.net

www.sanmarcoslutheran.org



All are Welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female." (Galatians 3:28)

Pastor Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Office Manager: Aimee Hudlow Musician: Justin Hershey

Bookkeeper: Eunice Hanson Choir Director: Max Chodos

Council Members

Dan Norris, President

Karla Strazicich-Cain

Kelly Van Jen, Treasurer

Karen Johns

Anne Voth, Secretary

Ed Mossuto

Kelly Black, Vice President

Devin Hogan

Tom Andreas

Alvar Roy

Brother Jack Anderson

To contact any Council members, Call the Church office and we will forward to the appropriate member. 760-727-1509

San Marcos Lutheran Preschool

www.smlcchild@sbcglobal.net

(760)727-0326 Director: Ann Leong

Teachers: Roxy Maldonado,
Marlene Vasquez, & Elle Kim



Remember in Prayer: Eleanor Adcock, Don Arney, Christine Buma, David, Gary Haldeman, Mike Hudlow, Pete Johnson, Cindy Jorstad, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Gary Kloehn, Sid Kranenberg & family, Anne McDaniel, Deborah McGregor, Melinda Nelson, Craig Pollard, Alvar Roy, Larry Serafin, Roy Smith, Vern Soderstrom, Dawn Steele, Megan Toler, Nick Torres. Let us pray for our homebound members: Dottie Black, Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz.

PLEASE CONTACT US!

We want to include you in our prayers, arrange for pastoral visits, and inform the congregation, when appropriate. Please notify the Church Office (760)727-1509 when:

- A loved one or someone you know dies
- You, or someone you know is ill or grieving
- You, or someone you know is in the hospital
- You want to plan a baptism, wedding, or celebration
- You moved or contact info has changed.

For urgent needs, contact Pastor Casey at cell or email:

442-222-1194 or pastorcaseykd@gmail.com

Lutheran Fellowship Lunch

Everyone is invited for good food and fellowship with First Lutheran of Vista. We will meet on Monday Feb. 12th at 12pm at PEGAH's Kitchen at 955 S Santa Fe, in Vista. It will be order from the menu and they have a great selection.

Any Questions contact Bill Hanson, 760-805-4565.

Hope to see you there!

**Financial
Update**

2023 Total Income \$285,122
2023 Total Expenses \$300,629

We were tremendously blessed by our offerings during 2023. Thanks to one and all for the ways you support the ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church!

Social Action**Food Donations****ALL SAINTS FOOD PANTRY**

No special emphasis this month, but canned tuna, chicken, and macaroni and cheese are always popular. All are always welcome to help us set up at 10:30am (take produce from the refrigerator and set it out, move tables, put out the signs, etc.) and then leave or stay to greet clients/help distribute food. Please contact Jill Adachi or Doris Payne if you have any questions.

Council Update

Hello SMLC!

Here are the updates from the January Council meeting:

The Council met on January 17th for our regular monthly meeting. The Council accepted and/or approved the submitted minutes and reports.

I presented the main plans and objectives for the Council for 2024:

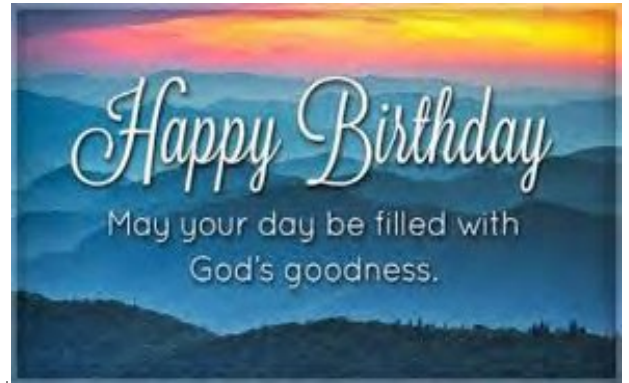
- 1) Enable our committees, chairpersons, and members,
- 2) Resolve remaining property and infrastructure issues,
- 3) Ensure financial stability,
- 4) Review and revise the Continuing Resolutions.

The Council also considered 2 items of new business:

- the Council approved the proposed budget and forwarded it to the congregation for approval at the February 11th congregational meeting.
- The Council also approved a plan for the funds invested in an ELCA Mission Investment Fund Certificate of Deposit to transfer the earned interest to our general operating funds, and to re-invest the principal in another 1-year certificate of deposit. This will give the Council time to review the best options for long-term use of the principal funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president for 2024 and for your continued support of SMLC, our Council, Pastor Casey, and the staff.

Daniel Norris, President



Feb 4 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Isa 40:21-31
 Second Reading: 1 Cor 9:16-23
 Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Feb 11 Transfiguration of our Lord

First Reading: 2Kings 2:1-12
 Second Reading: 2 Cor 4:3-6
 Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Feb 14 Ash Wednesday

First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
 Second Reading: 2 Cor 5:20b-6:10
 Gospel: Matt 6:1-6, 16-21

Feb 18 First Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Gen 9:8-17
 Second Reading: 1 Pet 3:18-22
 Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

Feb 25 Second Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Gen 17:1-7, 15-16
 Second Reading: Rom 4:13-25
 Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

- 4) Oscar Jorstad
- 6) Reece Lott
- 7) Zachary Hudlow
- 11) Ludette McNichols
- 13) Amber Young
- 16) Dakota Fawcett
- 16) Darrell Young
- 19) Greg Giddings
- 20) Colin Gastauer
- 25) Beda Farrell
- 25) Jecoliah Orozco
- 26) Steve Sultany

*The staff of San Marcos Lutheran extends
 our sincere thanks to all who contributed
 to the Staff Christmas Gift.
 ~Pr. Casey, Aimee, Ann, Justin, Rebeca, Eunice
 and Liam*

**The next Newsletter article deadline
 is Feb. 15th**



CHILDREN'S CENTER NEWS

FEB/MARCH 2024



3419 Grand Ave, San Marcos 92078 • 760-727-0326 • smlcchild@sbcglobal.net

We leap into February (it's a leap year!) and March forward as we embrace all the special days like Friendship Days, Birth Days, Amazing Race Days, St. Patrick Days, Parent/Teacher Conference Days...not to mention all the wonderful things Easter brings! (Easter is on March 31st this year with Easter Egg Hunts on 3/27 & 3/28).. Here's to a busy, busy few months! Please mark all the important dates~ there are many!

Blessings, Mrs. Leong

Friendship Days

*Wednesday, February 14th and
Thursday, February 15th*

If you would like to bring Valentine cards, please bring **12** in a Ziploc bag, labeled with your child's name on it. Thank you!

Parent/Teacher Conferences

*Thursday, March 14th &
Friday, March 15th*

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held **IN-PERSON**. This is a great time for you to ask questions and get feedback from your child's teacher. They will be going over your child's assessment and share samples of their work.

You will receive a date and time of your conference ~ thank you!

Please note: Preschool will NOT be in session on the conference days but we will watch your (enrolled) child for you so you can meet with their teacher. Both parents are highly encouraged to attend!

Amazing Race is Coming!

*Thursday, March 7th &
Friday, March 8th
9:30-11am*

Our Preschool Parents and/or Grandparents are invited to join our children for the **Amazing Race for Education Family Fund-raiser** to raise money for some new trikes! Parent/Child will rotate through 10 center activities and enjoy a snack at the end. Every child will get a medal for finishing the RACE! So get ready, set, GO to have some fun! Details to follow...



St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

3/12 (Tues) & 3/13 (Wed)

Wear **GREEN** and dive into...
looking for coins in the creek,
making lemon volcanoes,
tasting Lucky Charms
...and so much more!!

School will be closed on Friday, Feb 16th for Teacher-In-Service Day AND
Monday, Feb 19th for President's Day.

We will celebrate February birthdays on Thursday, Feb 22nd and Friday, Feb 23rd.

Learn  Live  Share  the Love of God

A GOOD DEATH

COMMUNITY TIME DURING THE SEASON OF LENT

INTRODUCTION TO HOSPICE

Krista Romberg, Regional Liaison from The Elizabeth Hospice

HOSPICE CARE IS MEDICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND SPIRITUAL SUPPORT. COME LEARN MORE.

FEBRUARY

18

GRIEF RESOURCES

Kathlyne Barnum, Bereavement Director at The Elizabeth Hospice

CONNECT WITH INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP GRIEF RESOURCES AVAILABLE LOCALLY FOR ALL AGES

FEBRUARY

25

END-OF-LIFE CARE

The Rev. Bill Harman, Palliative Care Chaplain at Scripps Encinitas

CONSIDER THE OPTIONS NOW, BEFORE YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES ARE FACING HARD CHOICES

MARCH

3

END-OF-LIFE FINANCIAL PLANNING

Rob O'Carroll, Financial Advisor

DO YOU REALLY NEED A TRUST? COME FIND OUT.

MARCH

10

HOW TO PLAN YOUR FUNERAL

Pastor Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

COMPILE YOUR FAVORITE SCRIPTURE, HYMNS, AND ANY DETAILS YOU WANT TO HAVE ON HAND

MARCH

17

SUNDAYS AT 11:15AM IN LUTHER HALL

HOLY LAMENT

wednesdays during lent
at San Marcos Lutheran Church

February 21 @ 2pm
February 28 @ 2pm + 6pm
March 6 @ 2pm
March 13 @ 2pm + 6pm
March 20 @ 2pm



3419 Grand Ave
San Marcos, CA 92078

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2024

FEBRUARY

CALENDAR YEAR

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	01 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	02 12pm- AA- LH	03 6-9pm AA- LH
04 12pm- AA- LH	05 12pm- AA- LH	06 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	07 12pm- AA- LH	08 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	09 12pm- AA- LH	10 6-9pm AA- LH
11 11:15am- Congregational Meeting	12 12pm- AA- LH	13 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	14 12pm- AA- LH 12pm & 7pm- Ash Wed. Services	15 10am-12pm- Pr Casey's OH at Ascend Coffee 8:30-5pm- Lifeline - LH 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	16 9:30am-12pm- St Joes- Sanc. 12pm- AA- LH Preschool Closed	17 6-9pm AA- LH
18 12pm- AA- LH Preschool Closed	19 12pm- AA- LH	20 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	21 12pm- AA- LH 2pm- Lent Service	22 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	23 12pm- AA- LH	24 6-9pm AA- LH
25 12pm- AA- LH	26 12pm- AA- LH	27 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	28 12pm- AA- LH 2pm & 6pm- Lent Service	29 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	01 12pm- AA- LH	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09